



CITATION DELIVERED BY PROFESSOR CHRIS COOK, EXECUTIVE DEAN OF THE
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND INFORMATION SCIENCES

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WOLLONGONG

ON THE OCCASION OF THE ADMISSION OF

JENNIFER ROMA SEBERRY

AS AN EMERITUS PROFESSOR OF THE UNIVERSITY

ON 23 JULY 2015

Deputy Chancellor, I present Jennifer Seberry.

Jennifer Seberry is a remarkable researcher, educator and mentor who pioneered a path into fields historically dominated by men, carving out an impressive legacy and lighting the way for those who follow. In the words of Helen Keller writing to Eleanor Roosevelt in 1939, "because you have so bravely struck out on a self-chosen trail, you inspire other women with confidence in themselves and in life. You show them how through rightly directed intelligence and will-power they can evolve higher capabilities and raise the average of human accomplishment."

Born in Camperdown, Sydney, Jennifer Seberry entered the workforce at 19 years old as a computer programmer at a time when the profession wasn't as male-dominated as it was to become. She subsequently worked as a high school teacher, teaching mathematics and science while completing her Bachelor of Science (Honours), which she was awarded in 1966 by the University of New South Wales (UNSW). In 1969, she attained a Master of Science and in 1971, earned her PhD in computational mathematics, both from La Trobe University, by which time she was also juggling two sons, Ralph and Luke, who were both under five years old.

From 1966, Jennifer's career traversed the globe, as she spent time as a lecturer, researcher and visiting fellow at institutions including Melbourne University, the University of Newcastle, the University of Waterloo, Canada, the University of Manitoba, Canada, the State University of New York at Buffalo in the USA, the University of Indore, India, the Australian National University and the University of Sydney (USYD), where she stayed for over a decade exploring the application of mathematics in computer security and cryptography.